



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
**PROBATION**  
DEPARTMENT

**Los Angeles County Probation  
COVID-19 Weekly Update  
December 11, 2020**

**Efforts to address the medically fragile population in detention facilities**

The Probation Department currently does not have any youth with compromised immune systems or other medical conditions placing them at higher risk for COVID-19 infection. Juvenile Court Health Services (JCHS) has identified 11 youth in care with underlying medical conditions which might exacerbate the impact of such infection. There are 10 youth in the juvenile halls and 1 in the camps. If infection were to occur JCHS and the Probation Department will be working together on individualized plans to address their care.

**Efforts to further reduce population in adult and juvenile detention facilities while balancing public safety**

The Probation Department's juvenile detention population has declined during the COVID-19 pandemic. On March 2, 2020, the juvenile detention population was 840. On December 9, 2020, the population was 515. The population in juvenile halls was 340 and the population in camps was 175. The population has had a slight decrease since the thirty-fifth report.

**Efforts to provide resources to support those released from jails, and juvenile detention facilities in order to prevent homelessness**

The Probation Department continues to make efforts to reduce the population in juvenile halls by releasing youth to parents, guardians, and suitable placements when appropriate.

The Probation Department continues to partner with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to receive early releases from California prisons to AB109 supervision in the communities. All homeless adult clients are provided with housing referrals to prevent homelessness.

### **Plans for adequate quarantining and isolation of individuals in custody**

The Probation Department continues to utilize the plans for quarantine and isolation in accordance with the Public Health Order for the control of COVID-19.

All isolations and quarantines in detention facilities continue to occur in partnership with JCHS personnel. Upon entry to probation facilities, all youth will continue to be tested for COVID-19 and remain in isolation until results are received. As of December 9, 2020, 107 youth had tested positive for COVID-19. There are 69 youth who tested positive at admission. There have been 38 youth who have tested positive for COVID-19 while in care: 9 at Dorothy Kirby Center (DKC), 10 from BJNJH, 8 at Camp Glenn Rockey (CGR), 4 at Central Juvenile Hall(CJH), 4 at Camp Afflerbaugh (CBA) and 3 from Camp Joseph Paige (CJP).

As of December 9, 2020, there are 236 youth in quarantine due to possible exposure to COVID-19. There are 93 at BJNJH, 78 at CJH, 29 at CBA, 28 at CJP and 8 at DKC. All juvenile hall living units and camps under quarantine have full programming, apart from in-person visiting. Youth under quarantine continue to have access to virtual visiting and an increase in telephone communication with families. The youth continue to participate in programming with their living unit, with limits set to avoid interaction with the non-quarantine youth. The youth under quarantine in juvenile halls have individual laptops for virtual remote learning services, provided by the Los Angeles County Department of Education (LACOE).

The quarantine youth in camp continue to have the same programming and activities. The camps under quarantine remain closed to newly-admitted youth who have been given camp dispositions from juvenile court. JCHS has taken extra precautions in placing living units and camps under quarantine due to the increase in the community of COVID-19 positive cases.

### **Increased washing of hands, hygiene, additional cleaning supplies and custodial services**

The Probation Department has continued to utilize the hygiene and cleaning plans outlined in the first weekly update. The Probation Department continues

to receive additional supplies to assist with cleaning and enhanced safety measures. The field offices have safety plans in place that evolve to keep pace with local and state health orders.

### **Screening of youth, focus on healthy staffing in the detention facilities**

The Probation Department continues to screen newly detained youth upon their arrival to juvenile hall. They are separated from other youth until negative COVID-19 results are received. Employees continue to be screened prior to their entrance into detention facilities. Youth who have tested positive remain in medical isolation and those youth who potentially have been exposed have been quarantined and continue to be monitored by JCHS.

Additions include the following:

- As of December 9, 2020, there have been 2,757 youth tested for COVID-19 since testing was initiated on May 3, 2020.
- There have been 1,519 youth tested upon admission in juvenile halls, 863 tested from juvenile hall's general population, and 375 tested from the camp population.
- As of December 9, 2020, 295 Probation Department employees have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Of this 290, 143 employees work in detention facilities and 152 work in field offices, which includes 3 contract employees.

### **Plan for virtual contact with visitation, keeping families connected and increased communication**

The Probation Department continues to utilize virtual platforms for keeping families connected when in-person visits are not available. 30 youth in juvenile halls and 25 youth in camps received in-person visits for the weekend of December 5 and December 6, 2020.

As of December 7, 2020, in-person visiting has been suspended for the juvenile halls and camps, due to the current Public Health Stay at Home Order. The suspension is expected to be temporary and will resume when it is determined to be safe for the visitors and the detained youth. The facilities have increased virtual visitations and telephone calls to parents and guardians during the temporary suspension on in-person visits.

#### **Additional Information**

As of December 10, 2020, 270 youth have been placed in STRTPs, 220 of whom are in California, 29 of whom are in California with Resource Families, and 21 of whom are placed in STRTP's out of California. As of December 10, 2020, there

are 11 youth in quarantine in state and 12 COVID-19 positive cases in state. There are currently no youth in quarantine or positive for COVID-19 out of California.

### **Future Updates**

The care of youth in Probation facilities is a joint effort between the L.A. County Probation Department, Juvenile Court Health Services, Department of Mental Health and the Los Angeles County Office of Education. During the COVID-19 crisis, these agencies have collaborated to create an environment of safety and stability for the youth under their care.

We are pleased that the situation in our juvenile facilities has remained largely stable during the COVID crisis and this creates an opportunity to respond to your needs for additional information about the situation. Accordingly, we invite questions related to the County's response to COVID-19 in its juvenile probation facilities or topics you would like to see addressed in future updates. Please email any questions to [COVIDquestions@probation.lacounty.gov](mailto:COVIDquestions@probation.lacounty.gov) and we will select questions and provide responses in future weekly updates. Please note that we cannot discuss the circumstances of any individual youth assigned to probation facilities or any pending litigation. To view previous Probation COVID-19 updates, please visit <https://probation.lacounty.gov/coronavirus>



*The Los Angeles County Probation Department is committed to rebuilding lives and providing for healthier and safer communities for all 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. Through a variety of programs, community partnerships and services, the Probation Department's mission is to enhance public safety, ensure victims' rights and effect positive probationer behavioral change. The Probation Department comprises nearly 6,100 employees and has an operational budget of \$900 Million as of 2019.*

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